Appl. No. 10/707,514 Amdt. dated April 06, 2005 Reply to Office action of January 13, 2005

REMARKS

1. Objection to the specification:

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In paragraph [0034] of the specification, the sentence:

"The period of each of the four clocks CK_1 to CK_4 is T, and the phases of the four clocks are uniformly distributed in 360 degrees. In other words, the phase difference between CK_n (n=1 to 4) and CK_1 is equivalent to the time difference of (n-1)*T/4"

is but one example of support for the claim 2 limitation of

"the phase difference between the n-th reference clock and the first reference clock is ((n-1)/N)*360 degrees."

Specifically, the equation ((n-1)/N)*360 (claim 2) is an expression of uniform spacing in phase, or equivalently, in time. The variation of this equation (n-1)*T/4 (paragraph [0034]) occurs when N=4 and a cycle length of 360 degrees is expressed in terms of a period, T. This is expressed several times in the specification in sentence form, by way of numerical example, and graphically such as in Fig.8.

Nevertheless, the applicant amends the specification to include the general form of the equation for the sake of clarity and Appl. No. 10/707,514

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completeness. No new matter is entered.

Withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

5 2. Objection to claim 13:

Claim 13 is cancelled. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

3. Rejection of claims 2-4 and 10-12 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph:

Claims 2 and 10 are amended to clarify the variable n as being "an integer n ranging from one to N."

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Similarly, claims 4 and 12 are amended to clarify the variable m as being "an integer m ranging from one to M."

Claim 3 is amended to depend on claim 2 rather than claim 1.

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No new matter is entered by these amendments. Withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

4. Rejection of claims 1, 6-7, 9, and 14-15 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) 25 as being anticipated by Lee et al. (US 6,356,123):

Claim 1 is amended to include the limitation of claim 5 found allowable by the Examiner. Accordingly, claim 5 is cancelled.

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Claims 3, 4, and 7 are amended for consistency and/or to correct informalities. No new matter is entered.

Similarly, claim 9 is amended to include the limitation of claim 13 found allowable by the Examiner. Accordingly, claim 13 is cancelled. Claims 11, 12, and 15 are amended for consistency and/or to correct informalities. No new matter is entered.

Withdrawal of this rejection and allowance of claims 1-4, 6-12, and 14-15 is respectfully requested. Claims 2-4, 6-8, 10-12, and 14-15 are dependent and should be allowed if the corresponding independent claims are allowed.

15 Sincerely yours,

Winten Hars

Date: April 6, 2005

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